

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STOCKH 03671 030818Z

22

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /081 W
----- 001700

R 021830Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8077

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 3671

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KW, KS

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SWEDISH MFA OFFICIAL TO NORTH KOREA

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. THE DIRECTOR OF MFA'S OFFICE OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS, LEIF LEIFLAND, HAS DISCUSSED WITH US HIS VISIT TO NORTH KOREA MAY 18-22. WHILE IN NORTH KOREA, LEIFLAND MET WITH VICE PREMIER (AND FOREIGN MINISTER) HO TAM, AS WELL AS WITH THE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER, JANG MUN SO. HE ALSO VISITED PANMUNJON. HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH NK OFFICIALS FOCUSED ON KOREAN ISSUE IN U.N. AND ON FUTURE OF NNSC. LEIFLAND WILL VISIT SOUTH KOREA IN SEPTEMBER. END SUMMARY.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH POLITICAL COUNSELOR, THE DIRECTOR OF THE MFA'S POLITICAL OFFICE, LEIF LEIFLAND, DESCRIBED HIS MID-MAY TRIP TO NORTH KOREA. VISIT WAS MADE AT BEHEST OF NORTH KOREANS AND HAD BEEN POSTPONED SEVERAL TIMES EARLIER AT SWEDISH REQUEST. LEIFLAND SAID KOREANS WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN HIS ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES, SINCE HA HAD SPENT SO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STOCKH 03671 030818Z

MANY YEARS IN SWEDISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND WAS

REGARDED AS AN AMERICAN "SPECIALIST."

3. ACCORDING TO LEIFLAND, HE SPOKE FRANKLY TO THE NORTH KOREANS, ADVISING THEM THAT THEIR ANALYSIS OF THE UNITED STATES WAS FAULTY. LEIFLAND SHOWED POLCOUNS MEMORANDUM ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH JANG MUN SO, IN WHICH LATTER HAD ASSERTED THAT THE U.S., "BEING IN THE MIDST OF AN ECONOMIC CRISIS, IS TRYING TO SOLVE ITS PROBLEMS BY WAR...THE U.S. HOLDS SOUTH KOREA AS A COLONY, USING ITS RAW MATERIALS AND ITS STRATEGIC MILITARY LOCATION. THERE EXISTS PLANS TO OCCUPY NORTH KOREA IN 5 DAYS, AND THROUGH NORTH KOREA, THE U.S. HOPES TO CONTROL CHINA AND THE USSR." THE SAME MEMO QUOTED LEIFLAND AS DISAGREEING WITH THE NORTH KOREAN ANALYSIS OF U.S. MOTIVES AND AS ASSERTING THAT THE U.S. ECONOMY IS ON THE UPSWING. LEIFLAND SAID HE ALSO ATTEMPTED TO EXPLAIN THE DIFFERING PERSPECTIVES OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ON FOREIGN POLICY, ABOUT WHICH THE NORTH KOREANS SEEM TO KNOW LITTLE.

4. AT TIMES, LEIFLAND SAID, THE DISCUSSIONS BECAME HEATED. HO TAM ACCUSED THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT OF "NOT BEHAVING" IN THE U.N. IN SUPPORTING THE U.S.-BACKED RESOLUTION ON THE KOREAN ISSUE. LEIFLAND REFERRED TO A NORTH KOREAN DRAFTED MEMORANDUM CIRCULATED AT THE U.N. LAST FALL WHICH CHARGED THAT THOSE WHO FAILED TO SUPPORT THE PRO-NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION AT THE U.N. WERE "U.S. STOOGES." LEIFLAND SAID HE TOLD HO TAM THAT THE SWEDES DREW THE LOGICAL CONCLUSION THAT THE NORTH KOREANS REGARD THE GOS AS A "U.S. STOOGES" AND THAT, "THEREFORE I MUST REACT STRONGLY AGAINST YOUR ALLEGATIONS." THE NORTH KOREANS, HE SAID, DID NOT REPLY TO HIS STATEMENT, BUT ONLY LAUGHED IN EMBARRASSMENT.

5. THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION OF THE NEUTRAL NATIONS SUPERVISORY COMMISSION (NNSC). LEIFLAND ASKED THE KOREANS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE NNSC, TO WHICH THE NORTH KOREANS REPLIED THAT THERE COULD BE A FUTURE FOR THE NNSC EVEN IF THE 1953 ARMISTICE AGREEMENT WERE DECLARED CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STOCKH 03671 030818Z

NULL AND VOID. WHEN LEIFLAND REPLIED THAT IF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT WERE NO LONGER VALID, THEN THERE WOULD BE NO LEGAL BASIS FOR THE NNSC, HO TAM

ANSWERED THAT EVEN IN SUCH A SITUATION, THERE MIGHT BE A FUNCTION FOR THE NNSC TO PERFORM. DESPITE LEIFLAND'S EFFORTS, HO TAM WOULD NOT DEFINE WHAT THESE FUNCTIONS WOULD BE.

6. LEIFLAND WAS TAKENBY THE NORTH KOREANS TO PANMUNJON. WHEN HE ENTERED THE JOINT SECURITY AREA, THE NORTH KOREANS ASSIGNED HIM FOUR SOLDIERS AS A BODY GUARD. WHEN HE ASKED THE REASON, HE WAS TOLD THAT THERE WAS A RISK THAT "THE BRUTAL U.S. MILITARY MIGHT ATTACK YOU, AND WE ARE REPOSNSIBLE FOR YOUR SAFETY."

7. ONE OF LEIFLAND'S PURPOSES IN GOING TO NORTH KOREA WAS TO DETERMINE IF THE NORTH KOREANS WOULD BE AS INTRANSSIGENT AT THE U.N. NEXT YEAR ON THE KOREAN ISSUE AS THEY HAD BEEN LAST YEAR. HIS CONCLUSION WAS THAT THEY WOULD BE. HE ANTICIPATES THAT BEFORE THEY PRESENT THEIR DRAFT PROPOSAL, THE NORTH KOREANS WILL ATTEND THE SRI LANKA NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE TO DETERMINE THE LEVEL OF NON-ALIGNED SUPPORT FOR THE LANGUAGE OF THE REOSLUTION, WHCIH LEIFLAND ANTICIPATED WOULD BE EXTREMELY HARSH.

8. POL COUNS ASKED IF LEIFLAND BELIEVED HIS VISIT TO NORTH KOREA HAD BEEN WORTHWHILE. HE REPLIED THAT HE CONSIDERED IT TO HAVE BEEN "VERY USEFUL," INASMUCH AS IT SHOWED THE NORTH KOREANS THAT THERE ARE MANY NATIONS OUTSIDE NATO WHO DO NOT AGREE WITH THE NORTH KOREAN POSITION. HOPEFULLY, HE CONTINUED, THIS MIGHT PERSUADE THE NORTH KOREANS TO SHOW A GREATER DEGREE OF FLEXIBILITY. WHEN THE NORTH KOREANS ARGUED THAT THEIR DEMAND FOR AN AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S., EXCLUDING SOUTH KOREA, WAS VERY REASONABLE, LEIFLAND SAID HE COUNTERED THAT IT WAS UNREALISTIC TO THINK THAT A NATION SUCH AS SOUTH KOREA, WHICH IS RECOGNIZED BY MORE THAN 90 STATES, COULD IMPLY BE IGNORED IN AN AGREEMENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STOCKH 03671 030818Z

9. IN CONCLUSION, LEIFLAND REITERATED THAT THE TRIP HAD BEEN USEFUL, AND WOULD SERVE AS A BACKDROP FOR A ONE-WEEK VISIT HE PLANS TO MAKE TO SOUTH KOREA IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.
SMITH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STOCKH03671
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760258-0561
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760793/aaaaddxp.tel
Line Count: 159
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <27 AUG 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF SWEDISH MFA OFFICIAL TO NORTH KOREA
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, KS, SW, (LEIFLAND, LEIF)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006